

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in this application. By this Amendment, Claim 1 is amended and Claims 2-12 are unchanged. In the interest of expediting the prosecution of this application, Claims 13-20 are cancelled, without prejudice, which claims Applicants reserve the right to file in a subsequent continuation application.

Objections to the Specification

The disclosure is objected to for alleged informalities, e.g., the recitation of the word “and” on page 5, line 4. By this amendment, the Applicants have amended this language to indicate that the connector board 30 has at least one through hole 31 in which is contained a corresponding at least one connector pin 32. Connector board 30 may also be provided with additional through holes to make “a plurality of through holes 31” in which additional corresponding connector pins, i.e., “a plurality of connector pins 32,” are contained. By this change, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection on this ground has been obviated and requests that it be withdrawn.

Objections to the Claims

Claims 14 and 17-20 are objected to. Claims 14 and 17-20 are cancelled by this amendment, thereby obviating this objection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§102(b) and 103

Claims 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,922,378 to Malhi et al. (Malhi '378). Claims 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,715,820 to Andrews, Jr. et al. (Andrews '820). By this amendment, Claims 13-18 have been cancelled, without prejudice. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of these claims on these grounds have been obviated and request that they be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11, 12, 17, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,109,298 to Hanni et al. (Hanni '298). Claims 2, 5, and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanni '298 in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,762,500 to Dola et al. (Dola '500). Claims 13-20 are cancelled without prejudice. Reconsideration of the rejections of independent Claim 1, as amended, and dependent Claims 2-12 is respectfully requested, to which Applicants direct the following remarks.

Independent Claim 1 recites a circuit board assembly comprising a main board having a first face and a second face and terminating in an edge having a mounting area, the mounting area comprising at least one mounting pad on at least one of the first and the second faces; a connector board having a first face and a second face and comprising at least one through hole between the first and second faces; and at least one connector pin disposed in the at least one through hole and having a portion extending beyond each of the first and

second faces of the connector board, wherein the edge of the main board and the second face of the connector board are abutted, the portion of the connector pin extending beyond the first face of the connector board is configured for electrical connection with a female electrical receptacle, and the portion of the connector pin extending beyond the second face of the connector board is attached to the at least one mounting pad.

Neither Hanni '298 nor Dola '500 teach or suggest, among other things, that the portion of the connector pin extending beyond the first face of the connector board is configured for electrical connection with a female electrical receptacle. Rather, Hanni '298 discloses board-to-board connections that are soldered and solderless. Dola '500 discloses mechanical connectors for interconnecting corresponding conductive traces of opposed printed circuit boards. However, neither reference includes connector pins that connect both board-to-board (i.e., main to connector board) and board-to-service (i.e., via the portion of the connector pin configured for electrical connection with a female electrical receptacle). For these and other reasons, Hanni '298 and Dola '500, whether taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the features of independent Claim 1.

Dependent Claims 2-12 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 1, as amended, and dependent Claims 2-12 (which directly or indirectly depend from amended claim 1) are allowable and that this application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Appl. No. 10/681,733
Amdt. Dated October 29, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 29, 2004

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to
Deposit Account No. 13-3080 of any fees associated with this communication.

Respectfully submitted,

October 29, 2004
Date

Leon Nigohosian, Jr.
Reg. No. 39,791

File No. 091393-9208

Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108
Tel. 610-798-2176